

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY EA/K:EHURWITZ:FLW

APPROVED BY P - MR.HABIB

EA - MR. GLEYSTEN

S/S - RPERITO

-----118519 090336Z /75-62

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 159864

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, US

SUBJECT: ROK AMBASSADOR MEETS WITH UNDER SECRETARY HABIB:  
JULY 8

1. UNDER SECRETARY HABIB MET JULY 8 WITH ROK AMBASSADOR  
KIM YONG-SIK AT LATTER'S REQUEST FOR GENERAL DISCUSSION  
PRIOR TO KIM'S RETURN TO SEOUL FOR SCM.

2. REFERRING TO BRIEF POSTPONEMENT OF SCM, HABIB NOTED  
THAT SECRETARY BROWN WAS OBLIGED TO BE IN WASHINGTON FOR  
THE VISIT OF ISRAELI PRIMMIN BEGIN. KIM SAID HIS GOVERN-  
MENT UNDERSTOOD AND THAT DELAY OF FEW DAYS WOULD CAUSE NO  
PROBLEM. HABIB SAID HIS OWN TRIP TO SEOUL WAS FOR THE  
PURPOSE OF CONFERRING WITH AMBASSADOR SNEIDER AND GENERAL  
VESSEY ON THE IMPORTANT ISSUES TO BE COVERED AT THE SCM.  
AT THE SAME TIME HE EXPECTED TO PAY COURTESY CALLS ON  
PRESIDENT PARK AND THE FONMIN. WITH RESPECT TO OUR SCM

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PREPARATIONS, HABIB SAID THEY WERE GOING WELL AND THAT  
WHEN SECRETARY BROWN IS IN SEOUL, HE WILL BE ABLE TO HOLD  
FULL DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT PARK AND MINISTER SO ON  
ALL THE ISSUES RAISED DURING THE BROWN/HABIB CONSULTATIONS.

3. KIM ASKED WHETHER HE COULD "PROPHECY" THAT PROPOSALS  
MADE BY PRESID-T PARK DURING THE CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE

ACCEPTED BY THE U.S. HABIB SAID THESE PROPOSALS WERE UNDER CONSIDERATION BUT HE WOULD NOT PREDICT OUR FINAL RESPONSE.

4. KIM ASKED FOR HABIB'S COMMENTS ON THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY'S RECOMMENDATION TO THE ROKG TO LIFT EM-9 AND SHOW GENEROSITY TO EM-9 PRISONERS. HABIB SAID THE MOVE WAS ENCOURAGING. HE NOTED THAT THE USG'S POSITION ON THESE ISSUES WAS CLEAR,

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDATION WAS OBVIOUSLY HELPFUL AS AN INTERNAL KOREAN APPEAL FOR FORWARD MOTION ON THIS PROBLEM. KIM NOTED THAT HE HAD TALKED TO SENATORS HUMPHREY, CHURCH AND MCGOVERN ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE, TELLING THEM THAT THE KOREANS WOULD MAKE PROGRESS IF LEFT TO THEMSELVES.

5. KIM RAISED THE HOUSE ETHICS COMMITTEE SUBPOENA OF THE BANK RECORDS OF THE UN MISSION, SAYING THAT A DEAL HAD BEEN WORKED OUT BETWEEN THE EMBASSY'S LAWYERS AND THE COMMITTEE WHEREBY THE RECORDS FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS, INSTEAD OF THE LAST SEVEN ORIGINALLY DEMANDED, WOULD BE VOLUNTARILY TURNED OVER. HE NOTED THAT THE EMBASSY HAD HIRED THE LAW FIRM OF COVINGTON AND BURLING TO HANDLE ITS PROBLEMS WITH THE COMMITTEE. HABIB SAID THAT THE COMMITTEE WAS PURSUING ITS INVESTIGATION TOTALLY INDEPENDENTLY OF  
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THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH, AND THE DEPARTMENT COULD NOT AND WOULD NOT WANT TO INTERVENE. HE COULD ONLY ADVISE KIM TO HAVE THE EMBASSY LAWYERS WORK CLOSELY TOGETHER WITH THE COMMITTEE STAFF TO REACH AGREEMENTS ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH SIDES.

5. KIM ASKED WHETHER THE U.S. SIDE WOULD PROVIDE WRITTEN ASSURANCES ON THE BLUE HOUSE BUGGING ISSUE AS THE ROKG HAD REQUESTED IN AN AIDE-MEMOIRE. HABIB NOTED THAT AMBASSADOR SNEIDER HAD ALREADY MADE CLEAR THAT OUR REPEATED AND HIGH-LEVEL ORAL ASSURANCES AND THE ROKG'S PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF THESE ASSURANCES SHOULD HAVE PUT AN END TO THIS ISSUE. HE TOLD KIM THAT THE USG WOULD NEVER SAY ANYTHING THAT WOULD CAST DOUBT ON THE ROKG'S STATEMENTS ABOUT HAVING RECEIVED U.S. ASSURANCES. KIM DID NOT PURSUE THE MATTER FURTHER. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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